Police on 17th July, 1995 from Bara Tooti Chowk while trying to sell one leopard skin.

(c) Sansar Chand has reportedly been acquiring wild animal skins mainly from U.P., Rajasthan and Bihar. There is no available record about his smuggling the skins outside the country.

(d) Cases have been filed against Sansar Chand in various Courts of Law in U.P. and in Delhi.

Effect of Reduction on Excise Duty on Prices of Soft Drinks

2224. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has in recent years, recommended reduction in rates of excise duty on soft drinks to the Ministry of Finance, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) whether there has been a withdrawal of MODVAT benefit on returnable glass bottles and of non-availability of MODVAT on plastic crates, increase in cost of essential inputs like sugar and transportation; if so, the monetary impact this had on the soft drink industry; and

(c) the basis on which the Ministry came to the conclusion that the quantum of reduction in excise duty in the 1995-96 budget, alone justified a reduction in price?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir. Reduction in rates of excise duty on various processed foods including soft drinks, and packaging materials, etc. was being recommended by this Ministry keeping in view the overall development of processed food industries.

(b) Since the change over from specific duty to ad valoram duty on soft drinks in the Budget of 1994-95, MODVAT benefits on returnable glass bottles and plastic crates are not available. Price of sugar is reported to have come down in the current fiscal year from that of the previous year.

(c) While reduction of excise duty aims at development of the industry the benefits are also expected to be passed on to the consumer.

Delay in Reimbursement of Expenses to SRPF Companies

2225. SHRI SHIVAJIRAO GIRIDHAR PATIL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in reimbursement of expenses incurred for the 12 SRPF companies deputed to New Delhi for internal security from May, 1990 to April, 1993; and

(b) the reasons for delay in payment of the expenditure incurred on joint Coastal Patrolling charges amounting to Rs. 4,96,29,095 as the Central Government share?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) A bill for Rs. 11,92,57,205/- has been raised against the Delhi Police for Maharashtra Special Reserve Police Force Companies deployed in Delhi for assisting in law and order duties from 2.5.90 to 9.2.93. The bills for the remaining period have not been received by Delhi Police.

The reimbursement could not be made for want of certain documents, viz. original bills and cost statements, from the Government of Maharashtra.

Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi have now approved the payment of bills raised for the deployment of the MSRPF Companies in Delhi from 2.5.90 to 9.2.93. A request is being made for allotment of additional funds for clearing these bills.

(b) The Government of Maharashtra had claimed from the Government of

India, the reimbursement of expenditure incurred by the former, on joint Coastal patrolling in 1993-94 and 1994-95 under the Coastal Surveillance Scheme, amounting to Rs. 6,19,11,000/-.

After processing the claims, Government sanction for Rs. 474.14 lakhs on special financial assistance to the Government of Maharashtra, for financing the Coastal Surveillance Scheme in 1993-94 and 1994-95, was issued in March, 1995.

Safety Against Fire of Super Bazar

2226. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief of Delhi Fire Service has declared some multy-storied buildings of the capital as unsafe in view of the fire in multy-storied buildings in Connaught Place;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Super Bazar Bhavan, Connaught Place has also been declared unsafe;

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(e) whether Super Bazar Bhavan has failed to comply with the norms laid down; and

(f) whether Government propose to take any punitive action against the Super Bazar or to close it down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P.M. SAYEED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Kailash and Ashoka Estate Buildings were sealed by the Chief Fire Officer, Delhi Fire Service following incidents of fire in these buildings on 12.6.1995 and 27.6.1995, respectively.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) to (f) The Chief Fire Officer of Delhi Fire Service had issued several notices to the Managing Committee of Super Bazar under the Delhi Fire Prevention and Fire Safety Act, 1986. The Delhi Fire Service conducted a survey on 26.7.1993 according to which 4 bare minimum fire safety norms out of 12 were yet to be provided in this building.

बम्बई हाई में निजी क्षेत्र की कम्पनियों द्वारा तेल उत्पादन

2227. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:**
श्रीमती सुषमा स्वराज:

क्या पेट्रलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने विगत के वर्षों के दौरान बम्बई हाई के क्षेत्र में तेल उत्पादन के लिए निजी क्षेत्र के कुछ संस्थानों को अपनी-अपनी निविदायें भेजने को कहा था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो ये निविदायें कब आमंत्रित की गई थी और किन-किन संस्थानों से निविदायें मेजी थीं;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इन निविदाओं का आकलन करने हेतु डा० ए० के० दास के नेतृत्व में एक समिति गठित की थी;

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या वर्तमान में बम्बई क्षेत्र में निजी क्षेत्र के संस्थानों को तेल उत्पादन के कार्यों में लगाया गया है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो किन-किन संस्थानों को तेल उत्पादन के कार्य में सक्रिय बने रहने हेतु स्वीकृति प्रदान की गई है; और

(च) यदि अभी तक स्वीकृति प्रदान नहीं की गई है तो इसके क्या कारण है?

पेट्रोलियम और प्राकृतिक गैस मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (कैप्टन सतीश शर्मा): (क) ओ एन जी सी ने बम्बई हाई के अतिरिक्त विकास के लिए पर्याप्त प्रौद्योगिकी तथा वित्तीय क्षमता सहित रूचि रखने वाले कंपनियों को संपुष्ट किया था।

(ख) ओ एन जी सी ने 10.12.93 को निविदाएं आमंत्रित की थी। जिन पांच विदेशी कंपनियों ने बोलियां प्रस्तुत की थी वे निम्नानुसार है:

(1) मैसर्स अमोको इंडिया पेट्रोलियम कंपनी, अमेरिका

(2) मैसर्स आर्को इंटरनेशनल आयल एंड गैस कंपनी, अमेरिका